



When Santa Claus Calls.

BEAUTY SHOW PROMISED

TWELFTH ANNUAL EVENT TO BE MILLION-DOLLAR DISPLAY.

Thirty-Four Dealers to Exhibit Over 50 Makes of Cars at Auditorium.

A million-dollar display of automotive products with a background of Portland's flower, the rose, will greet the residents of Portland and the northwest, who attend the 12th annual automobile show, to be known officially as "The Beauty Show of the Automotive World."

From the very entrance there will be color, design and "atmosphere" and it will not require the least bit of effort to feel the surge of show spirit. The decorative scheme this year is to be more elaborate than any previous show, according to the show management. Charles Goodman, official decorator for the 1921 show, arrived here Thursday and is laying his plans before the board of directors of the Automobile Dealers' association for their approval.

Out of the 38 passenger car dealers who are members of the Automobile Dealers' Association of Portland, 24 dealers have taken space for the display of their cars in the 12th annual event. These 24 dealers represent 51 different makes of cars, which will be represented by 131 models. Two other dealers, members of the association, have delayed making their applications for space, pending readjustment in their individual organizations. It is expected the balance of spaces out of the total of 144 will be taken this week.

First reports were that the 50,000 square feet of space to be utilized for the display of passenger cars would allow for the exhibition of 164 cars, but this was found to be in error, as the space as originally planned allows for only 144 cars. However, every available foot of space will be used.

A show that will surpass all former automobile shows held in this section of the country is promised by the auto association, under whose auspices the 1921 event will be conducted. The municipal auditorium will undergo a number of changes for the week of January 10 to 15, when the event will be held.

The opening night of the show, Monday, January 10, will be devoted especially to the reception of all persons connected with the automotive industry. This includes all automo-

bile dealers, mechanical employes and their families and members of the automotive equipment trades, which include accessory dealers and distributors, their employes and families. That the automotive world of Portland and the northwest will receive strong upward impetus through the holding of the show was the consensus of opinion voiced at two different automotive association meetings held last week.

A meeting of the Automotive Dealers' association was held at a dinner in the Tyrolean room of the Benson hotel on Monday evening and was attended by over 20 prominent dealers. Immediate action was urged towards the modification of the present law to eliminate double taxation on automobiles in the process of distribution, which in the eyes of the automobile industry is unfair to good business. Three new members, the Weller Motor Car company, J. H. Graham and the Scripps-Booth company, were elected to membership in the association at the meeting. These new members will exhibit their respective makes of automobiles at the annual show. LeRoy Fields presided in the absence of President Robinson.

The Automotive Equipment Manufacturers' and Distributors' association met in the green room of the Chamber of Commerce Monday evening to allot space in the balcony rooms of the auditorium for the display of accessory exhibits. The space was allotted by drawing and the meeting was attended by over 25 of the leading accessory men. Plans were discussed for extensive displays of this feature and much enthusiasm was shown towards making it a big event. Space was allotted to the following firms: Double Seal Ring company, Universal Tire Filler company, Strine Cycle company, Motor Equipment company, U. S. Manufacturers & Sales company, Paragon Disc Wheel, A. G. Bumpor company, The Alameda company, King Bee Spark Plug, Automatic Electric Brake, Willard service, Universal Garage Door Opener company, Northwest Battery Service and the Halstead Specialties company.

The accessory exhibit will be conducted under the auspices of their association. Those present at the drawing were: J. H. Harley, S. Biddle, R. E. Allen, C. S. Piper, C. A. Williams, A. C. Moor, J. M. Tuttle, O. C. Potter, W. H. Baines, L. D. Johnson, J. J. Greenburg, Thomas Wilkinson, William Wilkinson, C. H. Lundell, Charles Whaley, C. T. Burg, H. M. Hiney and C. L. Weaver.

The doors of the auditorium will be opened for the first time Monday morning of the show week at 9 o'clock and the general public will be admitted every day during the remainder of the week, closing at 11 P. M. each night.

HIGHWAY NORTH IS GOOD

HOLIDAY TRIP TO SEATTLE IS NOW EASY TO NEGOTIATE.

Castle Rock Detour Is Eliminated and Solid Foundation Met With Throughout.

For those who are planning Christmas holiday trips to Seattle or other sound points by automobile assurance is given by engineers of the Washington state highway department that the Pacific highway in Washington from Portland to the sound is now in fair shape, solid foundation throughout and with only one detour necessary, that being a short distance outside of Vancouver. If the trip is made from Portland via Goble and the Goble-Kalama ferry no detours are necessary at all.

The difficult detour in the vicinity of Castle Rock, which had been a formidable barrier to pleasant travel northward, was eliminated a week ago, when construction work on the new road was brought to an end and the new grade thrown open to travel.

In making the trip from Portland via Vancouver a detour is necessary seven miles out, turning to the left onto asphalt pavement, according to a description of the road furnished by R. M. Gillis, state highway engineer for the southwest district in Washington. This detour takes the motorist through Ridgefield over 14 miles of excellent going, 10 miles of which is paved. From Ridgefield there is a four miles of pavement north which takes the driver back onto the Pacific highway. This Ridgefield detour will be eliminated January 2, when new pavement which has just been put down is thrown open to travel.

From the end of this detour to Kalama is good gravel road, reported as solid foundation throughout and in good shape. The motorist making the trip north from Portland can also reach Kalama over the lower Columbia river highway, now all paved. Going to Goble and taking the ferry across the Columbia to Kalama. This road is in better shape than the road from Vancouver north and can be covered in shorter time, but the motorist must figure on considerable more delay and expense in crossing the river by ferry at Goble than in crossing the interstate bridge. Even at that, however, it is the advisable route, giving the Portlander an opportunity to see a good stretch of the excellent lower river highway.

reported as in good shape, with several miles of excellent surface. From Kelso to Castle Rock the new grade is taken, over road which has been gravelled just this year. This road will be found rough in spots, but solid throughout. Road work for seven and one-half miles north of Castle Rock has just been completed and consists of six miles of new gravel reported as in fair shape, about a mile of old road, which is also easily negotiable, and half a mile over new grade which has been planned, making it perfectly safe to travel, but rather slow. From the end of this work to Toledo is good macadam.

From Toledo through Centralia to Grand Mound, a distance of 28 miles, the highway is paved, while from Grand Mound through Tenino to a point three miles north of Tenino is excellent macadam. Here movement is again reached and the motorist's difficulties on the trip north are at an end. The pavement continues into Olympia and from Olympia to the other sound cities pavement is available.

Motorists planning the trip north may set out without fear of any unusual difficulties, states Gillis. The highway is solid throughout the entire distance and although rough at some points, it is in the main in good shape, with no danger of getting stuck or being unable to get through.

PAVING IS BEING PUSHED

Pacific Highway to Blaine Being Rapidly Hard Surfaced.

SEATTLE, Wash., Dec. 18.—An announcement has been made that the state highway department has completed paving a mile of the Pacific highway between Silvana and Stanwood, north of Seattle. The completion of that stretch of road forms an important link in the Pacific highway, as it means that the highway will not have to be closed again and detours used in order to complete the paving.

The stretch just paved is that mile beginning at the city limits of Silvana and leading to the Stillaguamish river, to the point where the road to Stanwood known as the river road commences. Further paving necessary to complete the paving of the Pacific highway north to the British Columbia line can be accomplished without closing the highway.

Plans for 1921 work call for paving the 4.5 miles between the end of the mile stretch just completed and Stanwood. With that completed there will be a paved highway from Seattle to Blaine with the exception of 18 miles that commence at a point near Burlington and extends to Bellingham. The new paving at Silvana will not be opened to travel until January from Kalama to Kelso the road is

LANE ROADS EXCELLENT

TRUNK HIGHWAYS IN GOOD SHAPE, IS REPORT.

McKenzie River Road Grading Is Finished, but Gravel Is Not Yet Down.

EUGENE, Or., Dec. 18.—(Special.)—That the trunk highways in Lane county are all in good condition, considering the excessive rainfall this winter, is the statement of men who travel around the county a great deal. With the exception of a very few spots cars can travel anywhere on these roads on high gear, they state. One of the prominent members of the convention, in a speech on auto camps, alluded to Ashland's camp and said there was only one other in the whole country which he had visited that could compare with it. Mr. Steel also discussed the matter of the small appropriation allotted to Crater Lake, and suggested that southern Oregon should unite in demanding an increase.

SALT LAKE TO HAVE SHOW

Last Week in February Chosen for International Event.

SALT LAKE, Dec. 18.—The annual Salt Lake automobile show will be held from February 21 to 26, inclusive, in the Bonneville park pavilion, under the auspices of the Intermountain Automotive Trades association and the management of W. D. Rishel, secretary of the Utah State Automobile association.

This is the first time in the history of the Salt Lake automobile show that the huge display has been backed by the Intermountain Automotive Trades association, and invitations have been extended to all intermountain dealers to participate. The announcement of the show dates was made this week by Manager Rishel after conference of the show committee of the Intermountain Automotive Trades association.

Aberdeen Hotel Leased.

ABERDEEN, Wash., Dec. 18.—(Special.)—The Windsor hotel, recently purchased by Ed Dolan, has been leased to Mrs. John Griffin of Hoquiam, who is spending several thousand dollars redecorating and refurbishing the hotel. The hotel is near the union station and has always enjoyed a good patronage.

Tourist Travel South Heavy.

MEDFORD, Or., Dec. 18.—(Special.)—There is much tourist and local

travel going southward daily over the Siskiyou to California. The mountain is free from snow and the Pacific highway will be kept open all winter with little delay to motorists by a crew of men with snow plow employed on the mountain by the state highway department.

ASHLAND AUTO PARK PRAISED

At a luncheon of the directors of the Ashland chamber of commerce this week Will G. Steel of Eugene was a guest and made a report of his recent visit to Denver, where he held as a delegate to the park-to-park convention. This, Mr. Steel said, was a most enthusiastic meeting and one that will bear fruit for the coast country.

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TOURISTS TRAVEL SOUTH

WINTER WEATHER NO BAR TO AUTO CARAVANS.

Travelers Declare Road North of Grants Pass in Poor Shape for Making Good Time.

ASHLAND, Or., Dec. 18.—(Special.)—A caravan of tourists from the north passed through Ashland the fore part of the week on their way to points in Southern California for the winter. The caravan was composed of ten automobile loads of people, and they were equipped with all the paraphernalia for camping. Tuesday night, they claimed, they camped out of doors and were not at all uncomfortable, although that was perhaps the coldest night of the season in southern Oregon. A string of seven Fords also passed through going south. These people also had their camping outfits with them.

Tourists from the north claim that the road north of Grants Pass presents the greatest obstacle in traveling at the present time. This stretch is not paved, and is hard to travel with automobiles. That they can make the trip without serious drawbacks, however, is evidenced by the automobiles passing through here every day. This sight of tourists making a trip over the Pacific highway north or south in the dead of winter is commented on by those who remember the heartbreaking journeys of former years.

According to statements of those who have come over the Siskiyou mountains from the south the only difficulty that confronts them on the road is north of Dunsmuir and up the mountains on the California side. After they reach Oregon their troubles are at an end, as the state keeps a man stationed on the highway who sees that the road is opened whenever a snow storm hits the summit of the mountains. With the fine paved highway the journey on the Oregon side is a delight, even in winter.

ECONOMY IN BRIDGE BUILDING

Lane County System Means Saving, According to Report.

EUGENE, Or., Dec. 18.—(Special.)—An illustration of the economy in the system of bridge construction practiced by the Lane county court by employing a superintendent who has charge of all construction, instead of awarding contracts, is given in a report just issued by J. W. Mc-

Arthur, county bridge superintendent. The report shows that on a certain bridge contract for which the superintendent's estimate was \$4346 the lowest bid was \$4978. The bid was rejected, the county court procured the materials, employed its own crew of workmen and built the bridge for \$4627.62, it is stated.

The superintendent in accounting for the saving says there must be figured the legitimate profit of the contractor, which is ordinarily placed at 25 per cent, in addition to a considerable economy in the purchase of supplies and employment of labor.

Mr. McArthur does not assume that this percentage of saving can be made on all bridge contracts, the percentage depending largely upon the efficiency of the working crew.

STEERING PLANT MOVES

Neville Company and Others Now Located at Wayne, Mich.

WAYNE, Mich., Dec. 18.—The Neville Steering Wheel and Manufacturing company, manufacturers of the Neville "more room" steering wheel, having outgrown their manufacturing quarters in Detroit, have moved to Wayne, Mich. The company is now installed in a new brick and cement building, which they occupy exclusively for the manufacture of their products. They have tripled their manufacturing facilities to take care of the big foreign and domestic demand for their "more room" steering wheels. The plant is one story high, 50 feet by 250 feet. The company is selecting Wayne as their future home, has been responsible for several other concerns who do business in the automotive world, starting construction for new plants in that city.

Oakland to Have New Auto Ferry.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 18.—Operation of a new automobile ferry system across San Francisco bay between Oakland and San Francisco will start in a few months. At present one ferry system handles the vehicular traffic between the two points. Automobile owners say the establishment of the second ferry means they will be able to make faster time in crossing the bay when there is a rush to the ferries on weekends and holidays.

"Sierra to Sea" Highway Planned.

VISALIA, Cal., Dec. 18.—Construction of the "Sierra-to-the-Sea" highway, which will connect Mount Whitney with the coast via Visalia, Hanford and Coalinga, may be completed next year, it was announced here recently. Chambers of commerce at Tulare, Kings and Fresno county have taken steps to take up bonds on the road can be completed.